Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Earthwork for 2½ miles is completed. Estimate for the next 2½ miles is under preparation and the work will be put in hand within a fortnight. The work is expected to be completed in all its details by August 1931.

Tank in Kunnamkulam for the use of cattle.

243. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—With reference to the reply given to question No. 155 reported in Vol. II, Part 22 of the Legislative Council Proceedings regarding the matter of having a tank for the use of cattle, Kunnamkulam, will the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats or the Government be pleased to state whether the matter as promised has been considered, and if so, what action has been taken by the officer in charge of the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments or the Government to remove the difficulties felt by the owners of cattle in the town ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes; on enquiry it was ascertained that three of the public wells in the western, the Pimpiriyam and Chiralayam Bazaars can be made use of for drawing water for the use of cattle. Besides water can also be had for the purpose from two tanks, *viz.*, the Ayyankulam and the Thorakulam.

Kumbalangi Panchayat.

244. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any, if so, how many, communications have been sent from the Kumbalangi Panchayat Office to the Office of the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats and to the Minor Irrigation Overseer from 1st Thulam 1103 to 30th Edavam 1103;

(2) if there were communications between the above dates what are the respective numbers and dates of each of the communications ;

(3) what is the purport of each of the communications addressed between the dates mentioned in (1) and sent to the Office of the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats and to the Minor Irrigation Overseer from the Office of the Kumbalangi Panchayat ;

(4) what was the reply given by the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats and the Minor Irrigation Overseer to each of the communications addressed by the above Panchayat between the above dates ;

(5) if any reply has been given to any of these communications addressed between 1st Thulam 1103 and 30th Edavam 1103, will the Government be pleased to place those replies on the Table of the House ;

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(6) whether there was a personal interview between the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats and the President of the Kumbalangi Panchayat in last Mithunam 1103, and did not the latter request that the bills for sanctioned estimates should be forwarded soon ; what was the reply of the former ;

(7) whether any bills for the estimates sanctioned have been forwarded to the Office of the Kumbalangi Panchayat in the year 1103, if so when ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(1) Yes ; 35 and 2 respectively.

(2) (3) & (4) The Member is referred to the statement placed on the Council Table.

(5) Government consider that no public purpose will be served by placing the replies on the Table.

(6) Yes; the reply was that the bills will be sent as soon as the works were check-measured and completion bills received from the Overseer.

(7) Yes; 4 bills and 1 R. T. R. on 25th Kumbham 1103, 18th Meenam 1103, 5th Medam 1103, 30th Edavam 1103 and 31st Karkadagam 1103.

Revenue Village and Village Offices.

245. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many villages have independent Village Offices and how many have joint ones ;

(b) are there villages having no manner of Village Offices ;

(c) what will be the cost of providing a Village Office to meet its needs ;

(d) have reports been ever received regarding the difficulty and inconvenience of having a common office for two or more Parvathiams ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(a) 78 have independent Village Offices and 91 have joint ones.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 2,000 approximately.

(d) No.

Thanukulam Chira.

246 Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether tenders were called for the construction or repair of the Thanukulam Chira in the Parappukkara Panchayat in 1104;

(b) the latest date on which tenders were to be submitted and the time;

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